

SHOCHIKU.

"IBARAKI"

(A Dance)

Un' Ono Act.

by MOKUAMI

*Approved*  
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TOKYO THEATRE, January (2 - 26)

A subject of Minamoto-Yorimitsu, Katanabe-no-Tsuna, who cut down one of Ibaraki-Koji's arms, is keeping the demon's cut arm in his mansion with some of his subjects carefully guarding against the demon's intrusion.

Now Abe-Haruaki, the fortune-teller, tells him that the demon will intrude his house to redeem its lost arm within a week.

Six days passed and nothing occurred but on the seventh day Tsuna's aunt visits him. He refused to meet her first but finally complies with her request.

As she insisted on seeing the demon's arm he opens the box. As soon as the box is open she resumes her true form of the demon Ibaraki and retrieving the arm disappears. Tsuna follows the demon in vain.



I B A R A G I.

Ugenta: I am the subject of Watanabe-Genji, one of the Greatest Four of Yoritatsu-Ason. My lord has recently cut off the demon's arm at Rashomon, Kujo, but as Abeno-Haruaki, the fortune-teller warns him to be on strict guard against the demon for a week. I am here to encourage him.  
Are you there?

Undo: Yes, sir.  
Gundo:

UN: By the order of my lord,

Gun: We have been guarding,,

Un: The gates.  
Gun:

Ugenta: I appreciate your watch very much. Six days have already passed now. I hope you will successfully finish the last day.

Two: We will, sir.

Here Watanabe-no-Tsuna appears in full dress.

Watanabe-no-Tsuna: I was here on duty the other day, when I had a quarrel with Yasunasa whether I could kill the demon or not. I went to Rashomon accordingly and cut off the demon's arm. According to the kind advice of Haruaki, the fortune-teller I am on my guard against it, for the demon might come any time to redeem the lost arm during a week. We have been successful six days, so don't lose the last day.

U: All right, my lord.

Tsuna: Don't allow a mouse to enter.

Three: Yes, my lord.

Tsuna: Oh, a hard work.

Here an old woman appears. She, in reality the demon but disguising itself in the shape of woman announces that she is Tsuna's aunt.

Ma: (in soliloquy.)

I have not seen my nephew for a long time. I hurried my way here but it is almost dusk now. I will go and see him. I say.

U: (from inside) Who is it?

Ma: I am Tsuna's aunt, coming all the way from Tsu province to see my nephew. Please open the gate here.

U: I am very sorry to say but my lord cannot see anyone during a week. So I cannot open it.

Ma: Why can't you?

U: I cannot tell it you, but anyway you shall not see him.

Ma: Isn't Tsuna here? Why doesn't he welcome his aunt who has come all the way to see him?

Tsuna: Why does she disturb the last day of our guard? I fear it.

(But unwilling to turn her away unkindly, he approaches the gate and addresses her.)

O my dear aunt I thank you for coming all the way here. But I cannot show you in the gate.

Ma: Why can't you?

Tsuna: It is an order of my lord.

Ma: Your bravery is known all over Japan. Why do you fear a woman?

Tsuna: According to the augury of Haruaki, I am firmly determined not to let a mouse in till a week has passed. Please come



and see me tomorrow, when I shall be able to talk to you freely.

Ma: Shall I plead in vain?

Tsuna: It cannot be helped.

Ma: I don't know why but it's very unkind of you not to let your aunt in.

(She is reluctant to leave and sorrowfully whispers)  
However brave you may be, you can't be called a true warrior if you've no compassion at all.  
I'm no longer your aunt.

(Tsuna, hearing her complaint and whisper makes up his mind to meet her and opens the gate.)

Tsuna: Where is she? She mustn't be far away. Wait a moment aunt!

Ma: Did you say, 'Wait'.

Tsuna: It was very unkind of me to have turned you away.  
Come on, I want to talk to you.

Ma: Do you?

Tsuna: Yes.

Ma: Really!

(He takes her inside the gate and sat down together.)

Tsuna: I am glad to see you as strong as ever.

Ma: The pleasure is mine.

Tsuna: Thank you for coming all the way.

Ma: It's ages since I saw you last so I've been so anxious to see you. But why do you lock your gate?

Tsuna: As you know I cut off the demon's arm at Rasho-mon. But the fortune-teller Abeno-Haruaki warns me to be on my guard against the demon's intrusion because it will never fail to appear within a week.

Ma: Really.

Tsuna: That's why I locked the gate to everyone.

Ma: Did Haruaki tell you so?

But you need not fear anything. By the way, where is the arm?

Tsuna: Locked in a box.

U: By the fortune-teller's instructions,

Un: We are

Gun: Watching

Two: The box.

Ma: Is this the box?

Tsuna: I have many things to tell you meeting you after a long, separation.

Prepare a drink!

Un: Yes, my lord.

Gun:

U: Will you

Two: Have a drink.

Ma: Thank you. I like it very much.

Tsuna: Show her your dance. Otowaka.

Otowaka: Yes.

Ma: Oh, it's a fine dance

U: Excuse me, my dear lady.

Ma: What is it?



U: Will you please dance in return congratulating your nephew on his unprecedented exploit?

Ma: I did dance when young, but not now. I'm an old woman now.

Tsuna: We have had nothing gay these six days. I pray you aunt, please show me your dance.

Ma: I could decline you nothing. I'll dance.

Tsuna: Thank you.

Ma: Don't mention it.

(The demon in the disguise of a woman dances.)

Three together: Well done!

Ma: Don't flatter me.

Tsuna: You are as good as ever. I was much moved by your skill.

Ma: Will you in turn tell me your brave story when you cut off the demon's arm. It will be a good souvenir to my country people.

Tsuna: O yes, with pleasure.

Ma: Tell me here.

Tsuna: Yes, aunt.

I had a quarrel with Yasumasa about who could really be brave enough to encounter the demon which has been haunting Rashomon.

I dashed there.

Now I prepared to meet any demon.

When suddenly from behind the dark grove. The thing stretched its arm and uplifted me in the air.

And in my struggle to land, I dropped my head-gear.

Ma: What did you do then?

Tsuna: I had a severe fight with it and in the darkness I succeeded in cutting off one of its arms. It whispered in the dark air that it would come back again to take it back and then disappeared. I took the arm to my lord who was so pleased with my exploit.

Ma: I'm very glad to hear that. By the way, would you mind doing me a favour?

Tsuna: Well, what is it? If it lies in my power.----

Ma: Show me the arm.

Tsuna: The demon's arm?

Ma: I've never seen a demon in my life and I'm already on that side of sixty. It'll be a good story to tell your parents after I've died.

Tsuna: I am strictly warned by Haruaki never to open the Box till the end of the week. But I'll open it secretly to please you.

Ma: It's very kind of you.

Tsuna: I say, Ugenta, watch the back-gate lest anything extraordinary should happen.

Ugenta: Yes, my lord.

Tsuna: Now, come here aunt and look at the arm.

Ma: How glad I am!

Is this the arm you cut off?

(While looking at the arm in the box, she gradually resumes the demon's form and suddenly grasping it she dashes away. Tsuna follows her.)

U: How frightened I am! The ~~xxxx~~ aunt turned out a demon!



Gun: It was the demon in disguise of a woman to get back its arm.

Otowaka: Since it has gone with it, anything will happen any time.

U: I want to run away but my trembling legs can't carry me away.

Gun: If it reappears to do us hard, what shall we do?

Oto: It will eat me first.

Un: Then it will eat you fast.

Gun: Don't joke!

Un: But the real demon.

Gun: Comes down on a dark cloud.

Un: It's dark.

Oto: And terrible.

Un: Lend me your hand when we run away.

Gun: O.K.

(Now in the darkness they tremblingly feel about.)

Three: Ouch!

Un: Demon?

Gun: No, Gundo

Un: I know you only by your voice, how can I go with you?

Gun: Let's clap our hands.

Oto: That's a good idea.

Un: O.K.

Three: Yoi, yoi, yoi.

(The demon now in its true form reappears with its cut-off arm under its arm followed by Tsuna with a sword drawn.)



Ibaragi: I am the Ibaragi-Doji, who, on the other night, was cut  
off my arm at Rashomon.

Tsuna: Then you are a notorious Ibaragi-Doji, aren't you.  
(There is a fight but Ibaragi-Doji successfully  
runs away with its arm.)

Curtain Falls.